DEFENSE HEALTH NETWORK PACIFIC RIM

NAVAL MEDICAL FORCES PACIFIC

PACIFIC PULSE

A Corpsman and Canine Connection for Operational Readiness

Canine Casualty Care Concern…Navy hospital corpsmen, along with Navy Medical Corps, Medical Service Corps and Nurse Corps officers assigned to Navy Medicine Readiness Training Unit Bangor, augmented their Tactical Combat Casualty Care proficiency learning from U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and animal care specialist about providing battlefield trauma care to military working dogs (Official Navy photo by Douglas H Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton public affairs officer).

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A MESSAGE FROM REAR ADM. VALDES

Dear Team,

Across the Pacific Rim, our military treatment facilities (MTF) and Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Commands (NMRTC) continue to demonstrate exactly what makes this network and region so exceptional: mission-driven teamwork, innovation in action, and a steadfast commitment to readiness. This edition of *Pacific Pulse* offers a snapshot of your remarkable work, and the progress and momentum you're creating toward enhanced patient care, a stronger network, and a more ready region.

At Naval Medical Forces Pacific, experts from the Joint Operational Medicine Information Systems (JOMIS) demonstrated the Operational Medicine Care Delivery Platform (OpMed CDP), a key element of the JOMIS program. This innovative system enhances Expeditionary Medicine (EXMED) capabilities by facilitating efficient and accurate documentation of care using complementary, interoperable tools that support care delivery, coordination, and medical situational awareness.

This innovation will provide the EXMED platforms, like the Expeditionary Medical Facility 150 Alpha who recently completed their Operational Readiness Evaluation at Naval Expeditionary Medicine Warfighter Development Center, with crucial data to increase survivability and help keep our warfighters in the fight. The training also incorporated an En-route Care System that provides Role 2 care during transport of patients, maximizing the realism of the training.

At Naval Hospital (NH)/Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command (NMRTC) Twentynine Palms, Lt. Emmanuel Dadzie's recognition as Navy Medicine's...

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Rear. Adm. Guido Valdes

DHA PRIORITIES:

- Enabling combat support to the joint force in competition, crisis, or conflict
- Building a modernized, integrated, and resilient health delivery system
- Dedicated and inspired teams of professionals driving military health's next evolution

A MESSAGE FROM REAR ADM. VALDES

...Junior Health IT Officer of the Year reflects how our teams are bringing advanced capabilities—like access to MHS GENESIS in field settings—closer to the point of care. At Naval Health Clinic (NHC)/NMRTC Lemoore, Sailors are testing Joint Operational Medicine Information Systems software that will modernize how we manage blood products across operational settings. Meanwhile, U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Okinawa is pushing forward digital diagnostics through its role in a tri-service pathology pilot that aims to achieve faster diagnoses and better outcomes.

On the readiness front, NH/NMRTC Bremerton is leaning in—from supporting USS Nimitz deployers with long-term medication plans, to building suicide prevention skills through Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, and even training with local partners in trauma care for military working dogs. These are real-world examples of proactive, collaborative care.

From Yokosuka to Guam, Twentynine Palms to Oak Harbor, your work directly supports the DHA's strategic plan, Navy Medicine priorities, and my commander's intent. Thank you for staying focused on the mission and keeping our people at the forefront of all you do.

Respectfully,
RDML Guido Valdes, MC, USN
Commander, Naval Medical Forces Pacific
Director, Defense Health Network Pacific Rim

Capt. Dan Clark, NHTP director, congratulations Lt. Emmanuel Dadzie, on his selection as Navy Medicine's 2024 Junior Health Information Technology Officer of the Year. (U.S. Navy Photo by Christopher Jones, NHTP PAO / DVIDS)

Surgeon General's Lines of Efforts:

LOE 1. Deliver Expeditionary Medicine Systems (EXMEDS)

LOE 2. Increase Sailor and Marine Deployability

LOE 3. Provide Quality Healthcare and Patient Safety Across the Naval Force

LOE 4. Recruit and Retain Navy Medicine Shipmates

DIRECTOR'S ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTS

DHN Pacific Rim

The DHN-PR Health Informatics Branch in collaboration with the Network Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) Uniform Business Office (UBO) teams are working together to provide an open forum to discuss revenue cycle issues, while providing training and best business practices to improve processes and increase MTF collections. They have created an 'Issue Collection Worksheet' to identify and track all issues discussed and to provide for follow up. This collaboration support is an evolving effort, providing CONUS hospitals the opportunity to collaborate with OCONUS MTFs to make improvements and advancements in the MTF Revenue Cycle.

DHA
Defense Health Agency
DEFENSE HEALTH NETWORK
PACIFIC RIM

Lt. Emmanuel Dadzie, Navy Medicine's 2024 Junior Health Information Technology Officer of the Year. (U.S. Navy photo by Christopher Jones, NHTP PAO / DVIDS)

DEFEND THE NATION

Innovate and Modernize

NH/NMRTC Twentynine Palms

The hospital's Chief Informatics Officer (CIO) Lt. Emmanuel Dadzie was named as Navy Medicine's 2024 Junior Health Information Technology Officer of the Year. One of Dadzie's most significant achievements recognized in the award was bringing access to the Military Health System (MHS) Genesis electronic health record to field operations, an advancement that allowed providers to access critical medical data while in operational environments.

DEFEND THE NATION

Innovate and Modernize

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

From Feb. 24 to Mar. 7, four Sailors stationed at the Armed Services Whole Blood Processing Laboratory West (ASWBPL-W) conducted an operational assessment of the Joint Operational Medicine Information Systems (JOMIS). JOMIS is a program that provides medical information technology to the Department of Defense Theater Blood-Mobile and ASWBPL-W is the primary test group for this new software. After testing has been completed and performance deemed acceptable, this software will roll out globally to manage all aspects of operational blood utilization including receiving, shipping, patient consumption, and product modification.

Capt. Mathew Loe, deputy director/executive officer at NHCL with Team Travis. (Photo courtesy of Elain Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

The USNHO Department of Anatomic Pathology, in collaboration with the Joint Pathology Center (JPC), Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC), Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC), and Royal Air Force Lakenheath, is participating in a tri-service pilot research study to assess the implementation and effectiveness of a Digital Pathology platform across the MHS. This initiative aims to enhance expert consultation for anatomic pathology specimens by equipping select pilot sites with digital microscopes capable of scanning whole slide images for remote evaluation, replacing the traditional practice of shipping glass slides for consultation—once validated. The primary goal of this initiative is to enhance diagnostic efficiency and reduce time to final diagnosis, expediting definitive treatment, and improving patient outcomes.

USNH Okinawa

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow our Talent

NH/NMRTC Twentynine Palms

Staff at the Adult Medical Care Clinic (AMCC) hosted its Sick Call Screeners Course (SCSC) which provides an innovative approach to improving medical care accessibility and operational readiness by reducing average appointment wait times from six weeks to just seven days. The AMCC will now be hosting Sailors from other bases to complete the course.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Courtney Smith instructs hospital corpsmen during the Sick Call Screener Course. (U.S. Navy photo by Christopher Jones, NHTP PAO / DVIDS)

Build Resilience and Readiness

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

The hospital supported the upcoming deployment of USS Nimitz, providing deployment medication supplies (180-365 days' worth) on maintenance medications to 265 deploying sailors. The team also ensured medical readiness for deployment by establishing a sufficient supply of medications to prevent shortages while underway.

Master-at-Arms Seaman Amanda Malave mans a security watch on the flight deck of USS Nimitz. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Timothy Meyer / DVIDS)

Eighteen Sailors completed the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) ASIST Feb. 20-21 at Bangor Chapel, gaining life-saving skills to recognize and respond to suicidal ideation. Their commitment directly strengthens force protection and mission success by building a culture where every life is valued and defended.

A workbook sits on display at an Applied Suicide Intervention Skill Training workshop at Luke AFB, Arizona. (U.S. Air Force photo / DVIDS)

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Ensure Accountable Leadership

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

On Feb. 24, the hospital's leadership, board of directors and senior enlisted leaders took part in a risk communication workshop which provided strategies and hands-on practical skills for communicating with any stakeholder, internal or external, on any issue that could impact their organization's mission.

Risk communication training. (U.S. Navy photo by Doug Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton PAO / DVIDS).

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Join Forces with Our Allies and Partners

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

Navy hospital corpsmen augmented their Tactical Combat Casualty Care proficiency learning from U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and animal care specialist about providing battlefield trauma care to military working dogs (U.S. Navy photo by Doug Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton PAO / DVIDS).

The MTF will be working with personnel from USS Reagan on shared resources during their transition to a barge. They will be supporting the occupational health mission with a provider and both an X-ray and lab technician. This will increase surveillance exam encounters and add X-ray services when a civilian technician is unavailable.

Staff from Bremerton's Branch Health Clinic/Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Unit Bangor is conducting a Trauma Casualty Care Course (TCCC) for dogs on Thursday afternoons weekly for 4 weeks starting Mar. 6. Normal vitals, airway management, hemorrhage treatment, and medication therapies will be discussed as staff train with one live dog and two manikins. Training includes practice in tracheostomy, needle decompression, intubation and cardiovascular support. The goal is to increase participants' confidence during real world events with canines. (No invasive procedures were performed on the dog.)

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Join Forces with Our Allies and Partners

NHC/NMRTC Oak Harbor

MTF leaders met with VAQ-209 leadership March 9 to engage and ensure deployment readiness for the reserve squadron before their deployment readiness medical appointments to ensure a smooth and seamless process for the incoming Reservists preparing to deploy.

A-18G Growlers from the "Star Warriors" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 209 simultaneously fire two AGM-88 High Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARM) during a training exercise near Guam. (U.S. Navy photo by Cmdr. Peter Scheu / DVIDS)

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

The MTF hosted leadership from the Japanese Self Defense Forces 15th Logistics Unit Medical Company. Lt. Col. Naoki Matsuno brought his group made up of medics, nurses, and a paramedic. There were many topics of discussion, but a real emphasis was placed on the necessity to have in place medical plans in the event of a conflict contingency or major disaster. The meeting wrapped up with a tour of the hospital and plans to continue to meet and work on policy to help care for all the beneficiaries here in Okinawa

Capt. Torrin Velazquez, USNH Yokosuka director and USNMRTC Yokosuka commanding officer.

USNH/USNMRTC Yoksoka

The MTF director was invited to the grand opening of Yokosuka General Medical Center, located 20 min from the USNH Yokosuka. This is a new 450-bed faciltiy that has six NICU beds, 12 ICU beds, and six SICU beds. They also have 10 operating rooms (with additional cardiac cath capability), 19 additional rooms dedicated for chemotherapy and 20 beds for dialysis.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Strengthen Partnerships Across America

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

The first group of University of Guam nursing and physiology students started their final clinical hours needed at the MRF, which will enable these students to graduate on time increasing the workforce available on a resource limited island; this partnership solidifies our commitment to the health of the local community.

Build Unity Within the Department

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

The Navy's Medical Corps Birthday was held in the auditorium Mar. 3 with guest speaker Rear Adm. (ret.) Bruce Gillingham, 39th Navy Surgeon General, who share his decades' long experiences with attendees.

Rear Adm. Bruce Gillingham, 39th U.S. Navy Surgeon General. (Photo from Navy.mil)

Navy hospital corpsmen augmented their Tactical Combat Casualty Care proficiency learning from U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and animal care specialist about providing battlefield trauma care to military working dogs (U.S. Navy photo by Doug Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton PAO / DVIDS).